



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street, Room B-50/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

MINUTES OF THE 692nd MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 692nd meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on May 8, 2008, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nelson L. Atkins, Chair
Paul A. Jacobs, Vice Chair
Andrew Friedman
Ann Jackson
Clifton W. Albright
Neal S. Millard
William Galloway
David C. Voss, Jr.
Clifton Albright

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Bertrum M. CeDillos
Sylvia Scott-Hayes
Gary L. Barr
Annie Huang

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Bernard Barber, Detective, Los Angeles Police Detective
Laura Green, Public Defender's Office
Samuel Dacus, Captain, Sheriff's Department
Gretchen Nelson, Los Angeles County Bar Association
Dennis Zine, Councilman, Independent Cities Association

EXCUSED EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Heather Aubry, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Bea Dieringer, District Attorney's Office
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court Representative
Kathleen Dixon, Superior Court Representative

GUEST(S)

Bobbi Tillmon, Presiding Judge, Homeless Community Court
Kathleen Dixon, Los Angeles Superior Court

MEMBERS

Nelson L. Atkins
Chair

Paul A. Jacobs
Vice Chair

Clifton Albright
Annie Y. Huang
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William J. Galloway
Ann Jackson
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Sylvia Scott-Hayes
David C. Voss, Jr.

STAFF

Rosemary Osuna, Commission Staff
Mireya Rivera, Commission Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Atkins called the 692nd regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:34 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Albright. Introductions of Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members and guests followed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 10, 2008

On motion of Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Albright, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of April 10, 2008 were approved as submitted.

GUEST SPEAKER, PRESIDING JUDGE BOBBI TILLMON OF THE HOMELESS COMMUNITY COURT

Chairman Atkins welcomed and introduced Bobbie Tillmon, Presiding Judge of the Homeless Community Court. Judge Tillmon gave an overview on Homeless Community Court which is a pilot program funded by the County of Los Angeles with resources from the City of Los Angeles and the Public Defender's Office. The court was established to serve 120 chronically homeless people with open cases for so called "quality of life crimes" that consist of public intoxication, urination in public places, camping in public parks, camping on beaches, jay walking, and shopping cart possession. Judge Tillmon explained the different community courts that consist of drug court, homeless court, and specialty court that addressed traditional issues like criminal and civil issues outside the courthouse. What sets the court apart from others is that it's predicated on the notion of "therapeutic justice". Combining consequences with the assistance necessary to make a change and address the underlying problems causing a person to commit crimes. Homeless Community Court focuses on the veteran community and other individuals who find themselves homeless, and bring court services to one open location. The City of Santa Monica donated use of their City Hall Chambers to conduct court hearings once a month with a court reporter on site.

Chairman Atkins asked Judge Tillmon if she is required to wear a judge robe while conducting court. Judge Tillmon stated not wearing a robe while conducting court is a misdemeanor.

Vice-Chair Jacobs asked are individuals referred to housing facilities or agencies. Judge Tillmon responded by saying that cases are part of the calendar, an individual may have one to several cases based on the number of infractions and is required to present themselves in court. When the individual completes the assigned program the Homeless Court dismisses

the case. If an individual does not complete the program, he or she is referred to the Airport Courthouse, which will adjudicate the case in a traditional courthouse.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Child Custody Exchange Program Update

Bea Dieringer, District Attorney's Office, gave an update on the exchange program as follows:

- Due to Captain Dacus being on extended vacation, Ms. Dieringer was not able to follow-up with captains he previously contacted to reconsider accommodating the Child Custody Exchange program in their stations.
- Chair Atkins stated that he spoke with Supervisor Burke's office regarding funding for the Child Custody Exchange program in her district. Supervisor Burke is aware of the program and has approved funding request before. Chair Atkins noted the commission would like to move forward with the program and plans to meet with Supervisor Burke on May 19, 2008.
- Detective Barber reported that a letter has been drafted to LAPD Administration requesting the allocation of space for the program within LAPD stations.

Update on Self-Help Legal Access Centers

Zoe Venhuizen, Los Angeles Superior Court, gave the following update:

- The \$1,000 donation to the program will be used to purchase an additional 3,100 file folders and labels. The folder will be used in the new Paternity Workshops and in the Case Flow Management Workshops. The goal is to expand the use of the file folders to the Self Help Centers in the districts that are handled by legal services.
- Kathleen Dixon, Los Angeles Superior Court Representative, stated that the folders are a useful tool to keep document in an organized and chronological order.

Ms. Dixon further stated keeping the papers in order makes it easier and is a more efficient way to manage case. Ms. Dixon thanked the Commission for its continued support.

Diversity on the Bench Initiative

This item will be continued to the next meeting scheduled for June 12, 2008.

Fund Raising Concepts

This item will be continued to the next meeting scheduled for June 12, 2008.

Chair Atkins informed the Commission that Councilman Zine, the Independent Cities Association representative to the commission, will be appointed as one of Supervisor Yaroslavsky's representatives to the Commission.

Councilman Zine reported to the Commission that he will be resigning his position as the representative to the Commission for the Independent Cities Association.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the 692nd meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:30 p.m.